

REMARKS

Applicant will address each of the Examiner's objections and rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

Claim Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner objects to Claims 1-2 for informalities therein. In response, Applicant has amended each of these claims as requested by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

Double Patenting

The Examiner also rejects Claim 1 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of US Patent No. 6,698,996 in view of Mann (US 5,234,308) or Landoll et al. (US 4,630,991), and Claim 2 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over US 6,698,996 in view of Mann or Landoll et al. and further in view of Gerstner et al. (US 5,662,453). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

While Applicant traverses these rejections, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer and fee herewith. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that these rejections have been overcome, and it is requested that they be withdrawn.

Conclusion

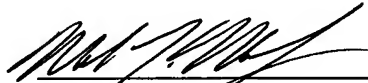
Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any further fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 8, 2005


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